

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SY-10 USSS-00 NEA-10 IO-14 DRC-01 EB-11

/149 W

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P R 281940Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 599

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

UNCLAS BELFAST 185

DECEMBER 28, 1973.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT UK (N.I.)

SUBJECT: GERMAN BUSINESSMAN KIDNAPPED

1. PRESS REPORTS THAT TWO UNIDENTIFIED MEN EVENING DECEMBER 27 KIDNAPPED GERMAN NATIONAL THOMS NIEDERMAYER. MANAGER OF GRUNDIG NI LTD AND HONOURARY CONSUL OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

2. NIEDERMAYER HAS BEEN IN NORTHERN IRELAND FOR 10-12 YEARS. HIS FIRM, WHICH ALREADY HAS AN ASSEMBLY PLANT IN DERRIAGHY, DUNMURRY JUST SOUTHEAST OF BELFAST RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PLANS TO OPEN AN ADDITIONAL PLANT IN NEWRY WHICH WOULD EVENTUALLY CREATE MORE THAN 1000 NEW JOBS FOR THAT AREA, LONG A CENTER OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT. IN LOCAL TV APPEARANCE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT, NIDIDERMAYER INDICATED HE HAD PERSUADED COMPANY HEADQUARTERS O EXPAND IN NORTHERN IRELAND BECAUSE OF GOOD PERFORMANCE OF NORTHERN IRELAND WORKERS, AND REGARDLESS OF TROUBLES.

3. THOUGH LITTLE WAS KNOWN PUBLICLY OF NIED RMAYER'S ROLE
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AS HONORARY CONSUL, MANY MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES HAVE NOW SEIZED

UPON THIS ANGLE OF THE CASE. SEVERAL HAVE CALLED US SEEKING INFORMATION ON U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL AND ON CONSULAR CORPS IN BELFAST, OUR SECURITY PROCEDURES ETC. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO STAY IN BACKGROUND AND NO-COMMENT ON SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN AT OUR OFFICE AND RESIDENCES.

4. KIDNAPPERS HAVE NOT YET IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES OR THEIR DEMANDS BUT FAVORITE THEORY OF MEDIA HERE IS THAT THEY ARE PROVISIONAL IRA SEEKING TO MAKE A DEAL FOR RELEASE OF EIGHT RECENTLY CONVICTED BOMBERS OF THEIR TRANSFER TO NORTHERN IRELAND.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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